

CONNECTION

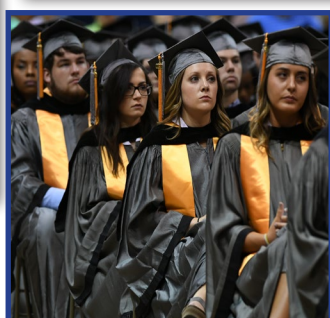
Itawamba Community College

Summer 2017



Beyond the wall...

An Itawamba Community College Alumni Association and Foundation Publication



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Quality
Enhancement
Plan



Giving students tools for success

CONNECTION

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A portrait of Mike Eaton, the President of Itawamba Community College. He is an older man with grey hair, wearing a dark pinstripe suit, a white shirt, and a red tie with white diagonal stripes. He is standing in a hallway with a framed picture on the wall behind him.

From the President

Soon after you read this message, I will be completing 43 years of service to Itawamba Community College and transitioning into retirement.

Although many verbalize this same thought, I don't know where the time has gone. My history with ICC began with the first time I stepped on the Fulton Campus as an assistant football coach for the legendary Ben Jones. It has been an honor and a privilege to serve in a multitude of roles, and each has presented its individual challenges and opportunities. I am extremely proud of the success of Itawamba Community College, which is a reflection of the commitment of my visionary predecessors, the foresight of the Board of Trustees and dedication of our faculty and staff. Our students continue to remain the College's top priority, as they have since the College was founded in 1948. Their success is our success.

Since we have last visited through the pages of this magazine, it's been a whirlwind year for ICC. The pages of the calendar have been packed with special events and activities such as the preparation for the October site visit by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges, the Furniture Academy partnership, construction on both the Fulton and Tupelo campuses and the recognition of multiple achievements by the College, faculty and students. In addition, a record eight new endowments will provide unlimited opportunities for students to achieve their life dreams and goals.

I have had a wonderful 43 years at the College (21 of those I lived on campus), and I have been greatly blessed. I value your friendship as well as your loyalty and support of Itawamba Community College. I hope that you will join me in continuing our connection with the ICC family. I'll always be an ICC Indian!

Mike Eaton



Beyond the Wall...

What began as a coaching career inside the old stadium walls at Itawamba Junior College for Mike Eaton has expanded to a legacy 43 years later, extending far beyond the walls of Itawamba Community College.

On July 21, 1974 Eaton joined Coach Ben Jones' staff fresh off a head coaching job at Ripley High School. He challenged his players each game to "get behind the wall" and put six points on the board, and they listened. Eaton stepped down in 1992 with a III-64-7 record, now ranking 30th among the NJCAA's All-Time Winningest Coaches and 40th in the NJCAA's Highest Winning Percentage at .629 in 18 seasons. His resume includes three state championships, three-time Coach of the Year, six-time Coach of the All-Star Game and coached more than 20 professional football players, including Ernest Dye, Tim Bowens and Norman Hand.

A lot of that legacy was inside the walls, but since that time, Eaton has "gotten behind the wall" as he challenged his players.

His service also has included instructor, director, dean, vice president and for the last four years, President, and his impact as an administrator has created a legacy that will

enable Itawamba Community College to impact the future of the region and beyond for years to come.

He is credited with providing the leadership for every major initiative the College has undertaken in the last few years, including the achievement of the highest percentage increase in graduation rates among all 15 two-year institutions in Mississippi, 53.80 in FY 11. Additional accomplishments and initiatives are selection by the Aspen Institute College Excellence Program

three times as one of the nation's top 150 community colleges and sixth best in the nation by WalletHub, extensive construction that is etching a new face on the Tupelo Campus, the addition of a safe room/band hall at the Fulton Campus, improvements to athletic facilities and implementation of dual credit, accelerated terms, the LEAP summer bridge program and ICC's Any Time, Any Place, Anywhere focus on multiple-entry points. A Public Health Technology program earned recognition

by the League for Innovation in the Community College before it began.

Not only is Mike Eaton leaving his legacy, which extends far beyond those walls where his career began, but he has left an imprint on the lives and hearts of his colleagues, players and thousands of students whose lives he has touched and impacted over the years. He says he's been "greatly blessed," but most of all, he says, they've touched his life, too.



What's happening?

Out & About with ICC



Members of the Board of Trustees, faculty and students attended the Legislative Appreciation Luncheon in Jackson. Members of CenterStage performed during the luncheon.

Above, CenterStage members, Alicia Tubb, Jessica Hall and Davianna Pulliam meet Senator J.P. Wilemon. Below, Board member Jeanette Atkins and her husband, William Dean, visit with President Mike Eaton.



The need for community college funding was the message that ICC administrators, members of the Board of Trustees, faculty and students delivered at Capitol Day in Jackson. Students Serenity Hawkins, Allysa Lipsey, Margaret Hatcher and Laken Jones and faculty members Robin Lowe, Dr. Ashley Lancaster and Judith Griffie and Dr. Jan Reid-Bunch, Director of Community Relations met with Senator Chad McMahn, Lt. Governor Tate Reeves, Representative Donnie Bell and Representative Mac Huddleston.



Members of the boards of both the Alumni Association and Foundation connected with Itawamba Community College during regular meetings this spring. President Mike Eaton provided an update on how the College is coping with budget cuts and steps being taken to balance the 2018 budget. Additional reports focused on building projects, student activities, enrollment, record number of endowments and workforce programs and grants.





Above, Preident Mike Eaton congratulates Support Staff honorees: Colby Hannon, Jennifer McFerrin, and Candice Pitts.

Below, Meritorious Achievement award winners, are Ashley Brown, Bob Swanson, Mande Miller, Dr. Brad Boggs.



An Evening of Celebration: Honoring Academic Excellence Across the Curriculum speaker was the Honorable Mike Mills, District Judge for the United States District Court for the Northern District of Mississippi. Mills is an alumnus of ICC, the University of Mississippi and its School of Law and the University of Virginia School of Law. From 1984-95, he served as a Mississippi Representative, and in 2001 President George W. Bush nominated him to sit on the United States District Court.



Kenneth Coleman of New Albany, retired judge in Mississippi's Third Circuit Court, right, has donated his papers, which span his more than 30-year career, to Itawamba Community College. He and his wife, Patsy, were at the Fulton Campus recently for the presentation to ICC President Mike Eaton. The papers will be housed in the Learning Resource Center at the Fulton Campus. Judge Coleman assumed senior status upon his retirement in 2007. Originally from Okolona, he is an ICC alumnus.



From the Alumni Association...



As director of development, I have had the opportunity to hear countless stories of great memories from alums who attended our great institution. These stories justify the cornerstone of the Alumni Association and just how important our alumni base truly is. After many hours of prayer, I have decided to resign from my position at the College. My decision was finalized after long and careful consideration of all factors. I regret leaving ICC, my co-workers and many associations I've made throughout my tenure. However, I feel the change will be most beneficial to my long-term career goals and objectives.

Please join me as I continue to serve as an ambassador for ICC. Your membership to the Alumni Association is vital. Incentives for members will continue to grow through discount opportunities, special invites to family-friendly events and so much more. Watch for more information on these and other initiatives that come directly to members mailboxes and through email. Updating your membership information is as easy as visiting www.iccms.edu and visiting the Alumni tab! And if you're not already connected to the ICC Alumni Association on Facebook, I encourage you to do so!

I appreciate the many opportunities I have been given during my time at ICC and the friendships I have made with countless alums. I value each of you and your dedication to your local communities and our great institution. I look forward to seeing each of you around campus in the future! And, of course, Go Indians!

Tyler W. Camp
Director of Development



Another school year has come and gone! Congratulations to the Class of 2017! Your accomplishments while at ICC have been many and your future is bright. The lessons learned and the friendships made during your years at ICC will go with you throughout your lifetime. Let me encourage you to make staying in touch easier by joining the ICC Alumni Association and keeping up with the latest news and events.

Things are always changing on campus. Please come visit and take a look around. Enjoy a ballgame, take in one of the many entertainment events scheduled on campus or just take a walk down the "Walk of Memories." As we all enjoy reminiscing about the past, it is also our privilege to invest in the future of ICC through the Alumni Association.

I count it an honor to serve as your Alumni Board President, and as always, your Alumni Association is here to serve you.

Melba Sneed Applewhite
Class of '75

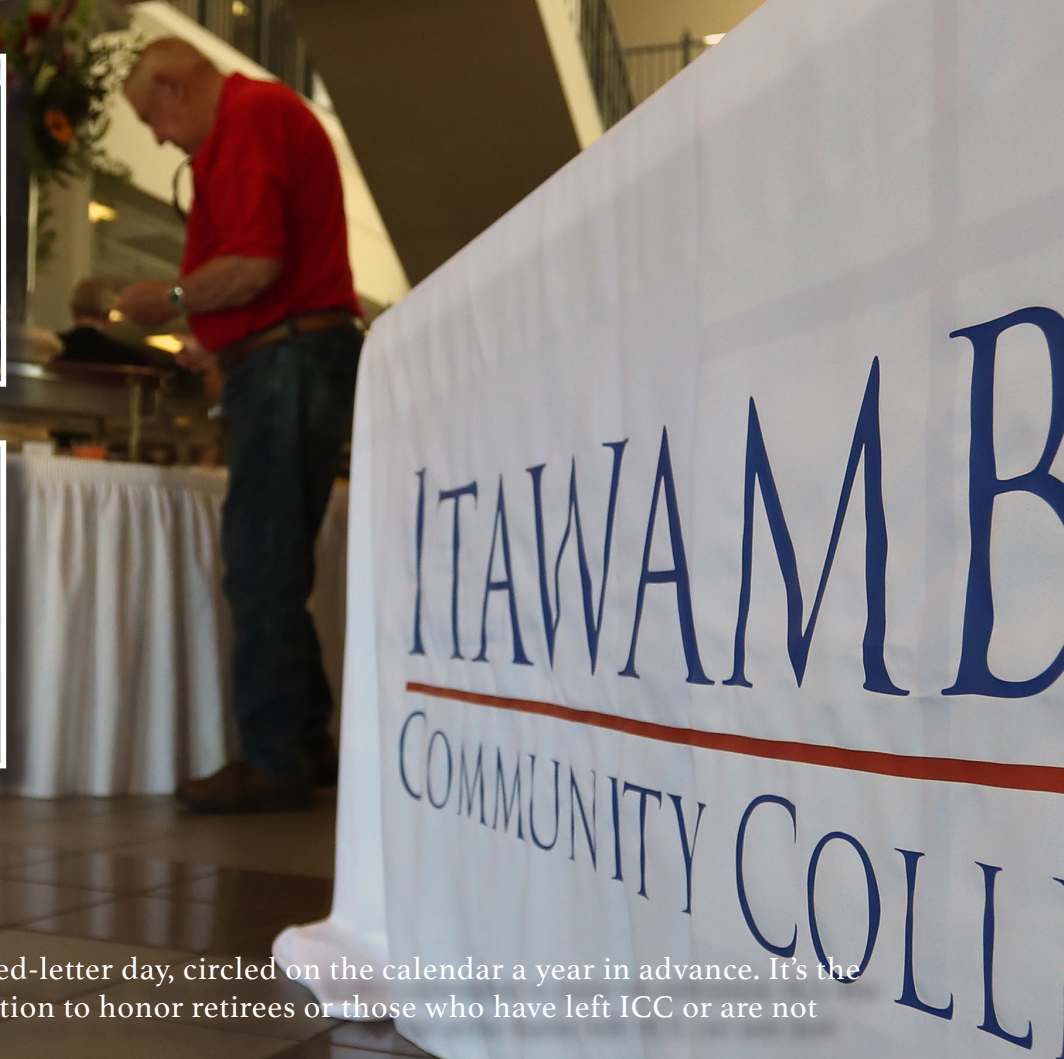
2017 Most Beautiful



Taylor Kennedy



Forever Family



Each first Tuesday in May is a red-letter day, circled on the calendar a year in advance. It's the special day for a recognition reception to honor retirees or those who have left ICC or are not returning.

This year's May 2 event in the David C. Cole Student Services Building lobby honored the 12 participants who were on the program, but 22 were eligible.

Amid the speeches by the plaque or certificate presenters and the honorees, there were tears, smiles, laughter, lots of reminiscing and several stories that have never been shared.

The honorees included Kathy Ashley, Housekeeping; Jeff Bates, Mathematics Division Chair and instructor; Larry Boggs, Director of Student Recruitment; Mary Sue Boggs, Public Speaking instructor; Dean Burchfield, Social Science Division Chair and instructor; Linda Campbell, Housekeeping; Barbara Carson, Library Technical Assistant; Mike Eaton, President; Pat Gladney, WIOA Case Manager; Nicole Graham, Early Child Care Center Manager; Violet Jefcoat, Receptionist/Office Assistant for eLearning; Ruth McKinney, WIOA Youth Project Manager; Jeffery Myers, Music and Piano instructor; Harold Plunkett, Dean of Health Sciences; Julia Puckett, ABE instructor; Georgia Shocklee, ABE instructor; Rick Spencer, Criminal Justice instructor; Rhonda Stevens, Workforce Office Specialist; Bob Taylor, Music instructor and Assistant Choir Director; Dave Thomas, ABE/GED Intake Specialist; Sarah Vasser, Housekeeping; and Kim Wiygul-Williams, Director of Graphic Design and Photography.

Alumni Board Spotlight



Name: Dan McCrimon

Occupation: First Vice President /
Corporate Relationship Manager
Corporate Banking Division, Renasant
Bank - Tupelo

Family: Jodi, Ben (8), Juliana (4)

Years you attending ICC:
Fall 1999 – Spring 2001

**Why are you excited to serve on
the Alumni Board:**

ICC is a special place where I have many fond memories. I'm honored to have the opportunity to give back to a place that has provided so much for me. I look forward to serving in whatever capacity needed, whether it's advocacy in the community, talking to potential students, or helping expand the college's role with business and industry.

What does ICC mean to you:

ICC has been many things to me over the years. I attended the Childhood Development Center as a three-year-old and my mother worked at the college as an instructor and as a dean for over twenty years, so I've been around the college my whole life! I worked there on the Grounds Department from the time I was fifteen-years-old until I transferred from ICC to Mississippi State my Junior year of college. While studying at ICC, I was also a cheerleader, which introduced me to lots of new people and also allowed me to continue my college cheering career at Mississippi State. My wife, who was Miss ICC 2001, now is an instructor at the college. I guess ICC has always been home for me in some shape or form. I feel like I grew up at the college and have a unique understanding of not only the college, but its students, faculty, administration, athletics, and facilities. After all, I planted many of the shrubs on campus today and have mowed just about every area of grass on the campus!



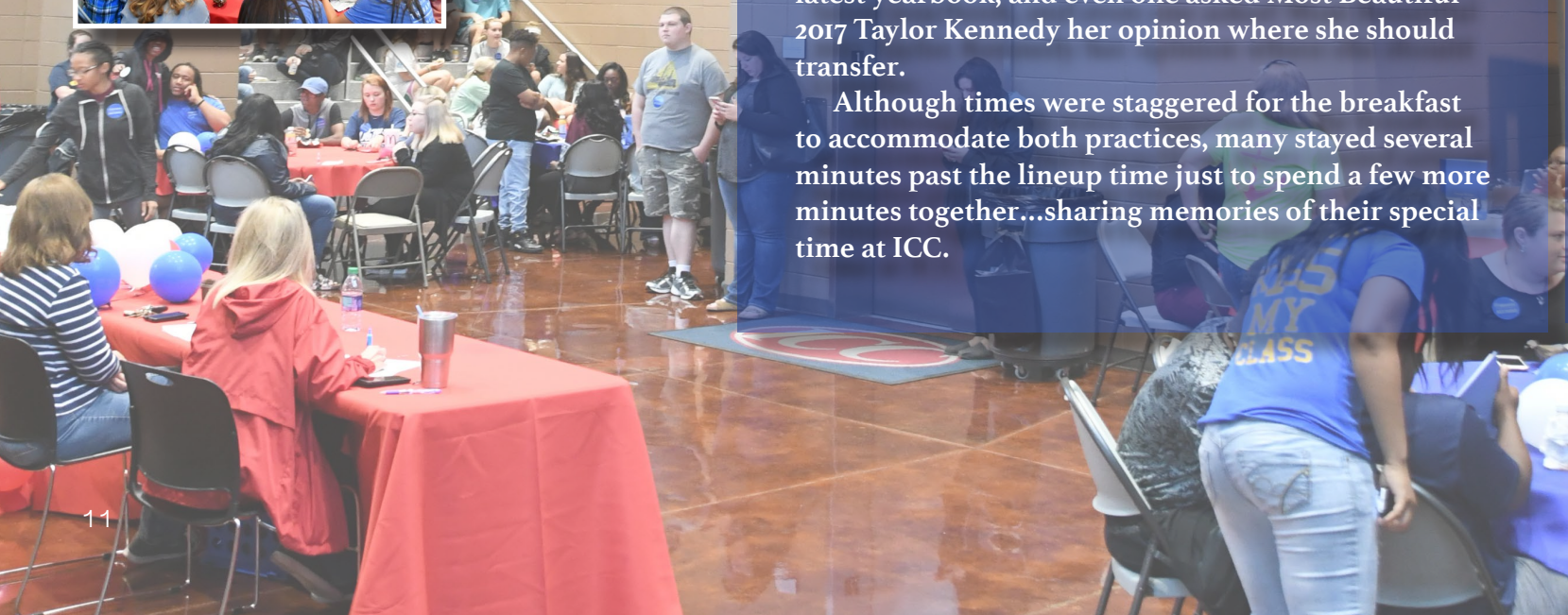
Alumni Breakfast

The day before they became alumni of ICC, both Associate of Arts and Associate of Applied Science commencement participants sat down for breakfast together and shared memories at the Davis Event Center.

The annual Alumni Association-sponsored breakfast on May 12 served up not only Chic-Fil-A biscuits, but also a chance for the graduates to connect for one last time before they walked across the stage.

Although the weather didn't cooperate for the planned outside event, the graduates didn't seem to notice as they visited at tables set up in the lobby. Many reminisced as they turned the pages of the latest yearbook, and even one asked Most Beautiful 2017 Taylor Kennedy her opinion where she should transfer.

Although times were staggered for the breakfast to accommodate both practices, many stayed several minutes past the lineup time just to spend a few more minutes together...sharing memories of their special time at ICC.



#Graduation17



More than 600 graduates of Itawamba Community College walked across the stage at the Davis Event Center on the Fulton Campus May 13 during two commencement ceremonies and were rewarded with Associate of Arts or Associate of Applied Science degrees or certificates.

They were among more than 1,400 graduates who have earned degrees from ICC this year.

Speakers Glenn McCullough, Jr. (A.A.) and Juanita Gambrell Floyd (A.A.S.) emphasized persistence, hard work and change as well as hope and endless possibilities.

Other program participants included Board of Trustees chairman William Shack, President Mike Eaton, ICC's Chamber Singers and graduates Allysa Lipsey and Dee Stegall (A.A.) and Robert Lampkin and Nicole Sumerel (A.A.S.)





From the Foundation...

2017 has been an exciting and busy year for the Foundation, from our 21st Annual Gospel Bluegrass Concert in March to our spring foundation Board Meeting in May. The monies raised from the gospel bluegrass/concert will be well-utilized by the Itawamba Community College Foundation, Inc.

We are pleased to announce that our fourth Annual Tanglefoot Bike Ride will be August 26. All proceeds from this event will raise much-needed funds for ICC student scholarships.

Thank you again for your continued support of Itawamba Community College and the Foundation. Because of your generosity, the students of the future can benefit from scholarships, programs and services of the College.

As always, we welcome your visits, calls, comments, suggestions and ideas as we continue to strive to make the Itawamba Community College Foundation the best.

The Itawamba Community College Foundation thanks President Mike Eaton for his 43 years of dedicated service to the College. We wish President and Mrs. Eaton the very best as they start their new journey in life.

Jim Ingram
Director of ICC Foundation, Inc.

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Itawamba Community College has successfully provided educational opportunities to thousands of students for more than 68 years. While many students complete the first two years of their bachelor's degree at ICC, many students pursue job skills for direct entry into the marketplace-they are our community's nurses, accountants, machinists and more. Others take courses for fun, to learn and grow.

As President of the Foundation for Itawamba Community College, I consider it a privilege and honor to champion this noble cause of supporting and investing in this fine institution and its deserving students.

The Foundation for ICC was created to venture beyond what public funding could do, offering resources for broader opportunities at ICC. The Foundation exists as a fourth funding stream to provide financial assistance apart from the traditional income garnered from tuition, property taxes and state aid.

In addition to providing scholarships and grants to deserving students, the Foundation supports a broad range of special projects involving education, training and economic development in the community. The Foundation also awards grants to promote professional development for faculty and staff. The Foundation has always relied on a network of supporters to meet these objectives: area businesses, companies and organizations alumni and individuals (many by supporting our fund-raising activities and providing scholarship endowments).

When you invest in higher education, you transform generations of families and ensure the future prosperity of the entire community. On behalf of the Itawamba Community College Foundation Board, I thank you for your continued support in making the education of our community a priority; and on behalf of our many, many students whose lives have been enriched, an expression of gratitude to everyone who contributed to their cause. We all benefit from their success.

Ronnie Boozer, President
ICC Foundation Board

Inside the Foundation...



Fulton Campus
Foundation Stipend Recipients
Ray Williams, Emily Lamb,
Emily Tucker and Chad Case

Tupelo Campus
Foundation Stipend Recipients
Laurie Stephenson, Amy Williams, Cathy Todd,
Tonya Davis, Charles Rowland, Holly Gray, Joy
Hand, Dee Dee Lomenick, Amy Hussey and Angie
Morris. Not pictured: Brandi McCraw, Patricia
Robbins, Stacey Hughes and Ira-Lindsay Kinard



President's **Round Table**

B & B Concrete
Eat With Us
Reed's
First American National Bank
Tigrett Steel

IN MEMORY OF
CHARLES BLAYLOCK
BY
JIMMY TAYLOR

2017 *Walk of Memories Bricks*

- In Memory of Billy Wheeler
by Terri/Larry Stewart
- In Honor of Carmen Crane Bond
- In Memory of Lena Mae Shelley
From the Shelley Family
- In Memory of "Buzzy Morgan"
Fayette, Alabama Football 1950
- Jo Ann Ausbon Summerlin



Doyle Lawson entertains the crowd again at this year's concert.

The 21st annual gospel and bluegrass concert on Mar. 4 was about sharing good music and good times with ICC's community.

And the community shared back. Through sponsorships and ticket sales, ICC's Foundation netted approximately \$53,000 for scholarships for future students.

It was also a year of firsts. A Pickin' in the Pines competition a couple of weeks before earned Tombigbee



Banjo picker Zach Lentz performs with opening act Tombigbee Divide.

Divide opening act status for the concert. It was the first time in its history that a concert opener was selected to perform. In fact, ICC's gospel bluegrass concert played a role in the members of the group since two of them met at last year's event.

The ICC bluegrass gospel Concert was conceived by Buster Davis, and through his loyal and dedicated leadership and the support of his late twin brother, Bud, this much-anticipated event



Jamie Dailey captivates the audience during Dailey & Vincent's performance.

has continued to flourish over the years.

This year, concert performances by Dailey & Vincent, Doyle Lawson & Quicksilver and Rhonda Vincent & the Rage had toes tapping as the audience enjoyed the finest gospel and bluegrass music anywhere, but on this sunny Saturday, it was in Fulton, Mississippi at the Davis Event Center for our community.



Award-winning Patrick McAvinue shows why he's one of the most innovative fiddlers in the country.

A woman with blonde hair, wearing a black jacket and a sequined skirt, is playing a guitar and singing into a microphone. In the background, a man with glasses and a beard is also playing a guitar. The scene is lit with warm stage lights.

21st Annual
Gospel
BLUEGRASS
CONCERT

Rhonda Vincent always
entertains the crowd.



Kline Scholarship

Tommy and Natalie Kline of Fulton are providing an opportunity for future Itawamba Community College students to achieve their dreams through their recent scholarship endowment.

The Tommy and Natalie Kline Endowed Scholarship will fund full-tuition for any deserving full-time student with financial need.

Tommy, an Aberdeen native, met Natalie, lifelong Fulton resident, at then-Itawamba Junior College in the spring of 1976. He returned to IJC to complete work on the associate's degree in business, which he began a couple of years earlier when he was recruited by Tom Childs to play football at IJC. He played for Coach Dudley Miller, and then Coach Ben Jones. He said he would never have gone to college if it were not for that athletic scholarship. Tommy also later drove from Aberdeen to the Tupelo Campus two nights a week for 18 months to complete the Heating and Air Conditioning program.

Enter Natalie, who credits IJC for her significant background in science, especially chemistry, physics and zoology, all valuable for her degree and employment in the medical technology field.

The Tommy and Natalie Kline story appears to be just one about two people who met at IJC, fell in love and then married. But, there's more.

Tommy and Natalie moved to Aberdeen, but with a grin, he said, "we had to move to Fulton because I couldn't afford to pay the phone bill with Natalie calling her mother so often."

The Klines, now with baby Tom, packed up and relocated. Tommy founded Kline Mechanical in April 1978, two weeks after they moved to Fulton.

The business began, and 39 years later, it continues to prosper. Tommy said he worked hard and long for a lot of years, many times on frigid Christmas days, but "I don't work like that now." He values work ethic and honesty, as traits for every employee, and in 2006, Tommy was named the Itawamba County Development Council's Business Person of the Year. "He's the most honest person I know," said Natalie, "sometimes brutally honest."

Both Klines value their time at the College, and recent reflections brought smiles as they reminisced about how it has changed over the years. "It's totally changed," they agreed. "Tuition was \$100. There was a swamp where the tennis courts are today and old dorms. The College was more prep for senior college then."

Tommy said he met a lot of friends at IJC, friends he wouldn't have otherwise known. A lot of them are football teammates, and they continue to stay in touch. "The College has a sense of family. It's very important to this community," they said. "Any time anyone comes to town (Fulton), we drive them through the campus," Natalie pointed out. "It's the prettiest in the state."

"Fulton is where I want to be," Tommy said. "I don't know anywhere else in the world I'd rather be."

Tommy also serves on the local board of BancorpSouth, chairman of the Mississippi State Board of Contractors, past chairman of Mississippi Associated Builders and Contractors and past chairman of Mississippi Manufacturers Association. The Klines are members of St. James Catholic Church in Tupelo.

But their life is, and has always been, family-focused. They have four children: Tom, and his wife, Staci; Matt and his wife, Parker; Leah and her husband, Martin Richardson; and Laura and her husband, Mitch McWhirter. They have 11 grandchildren and two step-grandchildren.

And 39 years later, Tommy's work ethic, the Klines' dedication to their family, community and the College and their generous spirit will create new opportunities for students.



Billy Wheeler Scholarship



To commemorate his love for Itawamba Community College, the family and friends of Billy Wheeler have endowed a scholarship in his memory.

Wheeler served as past chairman of ICC's Foundation board and was honored as the College's Alumnus of the Year in 1998.

Although he lived in Tupelo for many years, his roots were in Fulton. In 1951 he graduated from Fulton High School, and after serving in the Army, he attended IJC. He graduated from Mississippi State University in 1957 with a degree in education.

Wheeler worked for Weatherall's, Inc., becoming the owner in 1964. He was an active member of Calvary Baptist Church, and for 46 years, a member of the Tupelo Rotary Club, of which he was a Paul Harris Fellow and past president. He was also past president of the Community Development Foundation and member of the board of the North Mississippi Health Services.

Family members include his wife, Shirley; daughter, Julie Ann Gough (Phillip); son, John G. Wheeler (Tammy); and four granddaughters, Molly Elizabeth Gough, Margaret Lee Wheeler, Mary Allison Gough and Kathryn Grace Wheeler.



John and Beth Cleveland Excellence in Education Outstanding Faculty Award

Itawamba Community College mathematics instructor Chris Cox of Tupelo is the beneficiary of a new award for an outstanding faculty member, thanks to the generosity of John and Beth Cleveland, Fulton natives, who now reside in Kingwood, Texas.

Criteria for selection for the John and Beth Cleveland Excellence in Education Outstanding Faculty award include full-time faculty; outstanding teaching, coaching, guidance; and unselfish dedication to students and the College. Additional criteria may include publications, grant writing; club and student activities involvement; contributions to the College through committees, special projects, volunteerism, etc.; service to the community as a representative of the College and art exhibitions, concerts and public performances.

Cox has been a mathematics instructor at ICC since August 2011. At ICC, he is the sponsor of the Future Educators Association and is coordinator for the District Junior High Mathematics Competition. Also, he has worked with ICC and the Fulton Church of Christ to establish a campus ministry program. His other activities include deacon over adult education at the West Main Church of Christ. An alumnus of ICC, Cox earned both the bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Mississippi.

The award is a result of the Cleveland's second endowment to the ICC Foundation. The first was for the John and Beth Cleveland Endowed Scholarship, which provides half-tuition assistance for a full-time student majoring in a math, science or engineering field of study. Both attended ICC, where they participated in intercollegiate athletics and pursued majors in the fields of engineering and math and science education.



Welcome

A NEW ERA

ITAWAMBA
COMMUNITY COLLEGE
PRESIDENT

Dr. Jay Allen



The Board of Trustees has selected Dr. Jay Allen as the seventh president. Dr. Allen will return to Mississippi from Kentucky, where he is currently president and CEO of Hopkinsville Community College, which has an enrollment of 3,000 plus students and a satellite center at the Fort Campbell Army Post and the Todd County Career Path Institute.

Before Dr. Allen assumed the presidency at Hopkinsville in January 2014, he served in several leadership positions at Hinds

Community College and as a senior-level administrator for Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College – Perkinston and the George County Center, for a combined total of 22 years. He earned the associate of arts degree in May 1991 from Hinds Community College; the bachelor of science degree in 1993 and the master's degree in 1995, both from Mississippi State University; and the doctorate, which is in higher education administration, from the University of Mississippi in 2009.

His experience includes academic, career-technical, student services, institutional development, information technology, business services, athletics, workforce and other non-credit areas.

He and his wife, Belinda, who is currently a math teacher and school nurse, have two daughters, Emma Grace, 14, and Mollianne, 9.

ICC Community Relations

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Raphael Henry

Video Coordinator

Jim Ingram

Director of ICC Foundation

Did we take your picture?

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COMMUNITY COLLEGE

www.iccimages.com



Gray selected for Hall of Fame

ICC women's basketball, Coach Nanci Gray, was inducted into the Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges Athletic Hall of Fame on Tuesday, April 25, in a special ceremony scheduled for 6 p.m. at the Muse Center of Hinds Community College in Pearl.

Gray has completed her eleventh season as head coach of the Lady Indians basketball team. After spending more than 27 years in high school education at Houlka, Bruce and Tupelo and 17 years as a head coach, she led the Lady Indians to the 2008 and 2012 state championships for which she was named MACJC Coach of the Year.

During her tenure, Gray has led the ICC women's basketball program to three National Junior College Athletic Association Region 23 Championships, three MACJC titles and six MACJC North Division crowns. In 2014-15, Gray picked up her 600th career win. Her career record is 661-200.

Among her honors are TriLakes Conference Coach of the Year, Mississippi Association of Coaches (MAC) North All-Star Coach,

multiple Northeast Mississippi Daily Journal Coach of the Year, multiple Northeast Mississippi Daily Journal Lee County Coach of the Year, Coach of the Year, multiple MACJC Coach of the Year, and three NJCAA Region 23 Coach of the Year honors. She was selected to the ICC Athletic Hall of Fame in 1998. In addition, she has coached a Mississippi Gatorade Player of the Year, SEC Freshman of the Year, numerous All-SEC team members, WNBA players for the Indiana Fever and Connecticut Suns, NJCAA Academic All-Americans and NJCAA All-Americans.

Gray's impressive resume includes a stellar career at Houlka High School and then Itawamba Junior College.

At Houlka, Gray played varsity basketball for four years. In 1972, her team was state runner-up and she was named MAC All-State and, in 1974, MAC All-Star player.

At ICC, in 1975 she was a member of the revitalized women's basketball team, which in its first year won the MACJC State Championship,

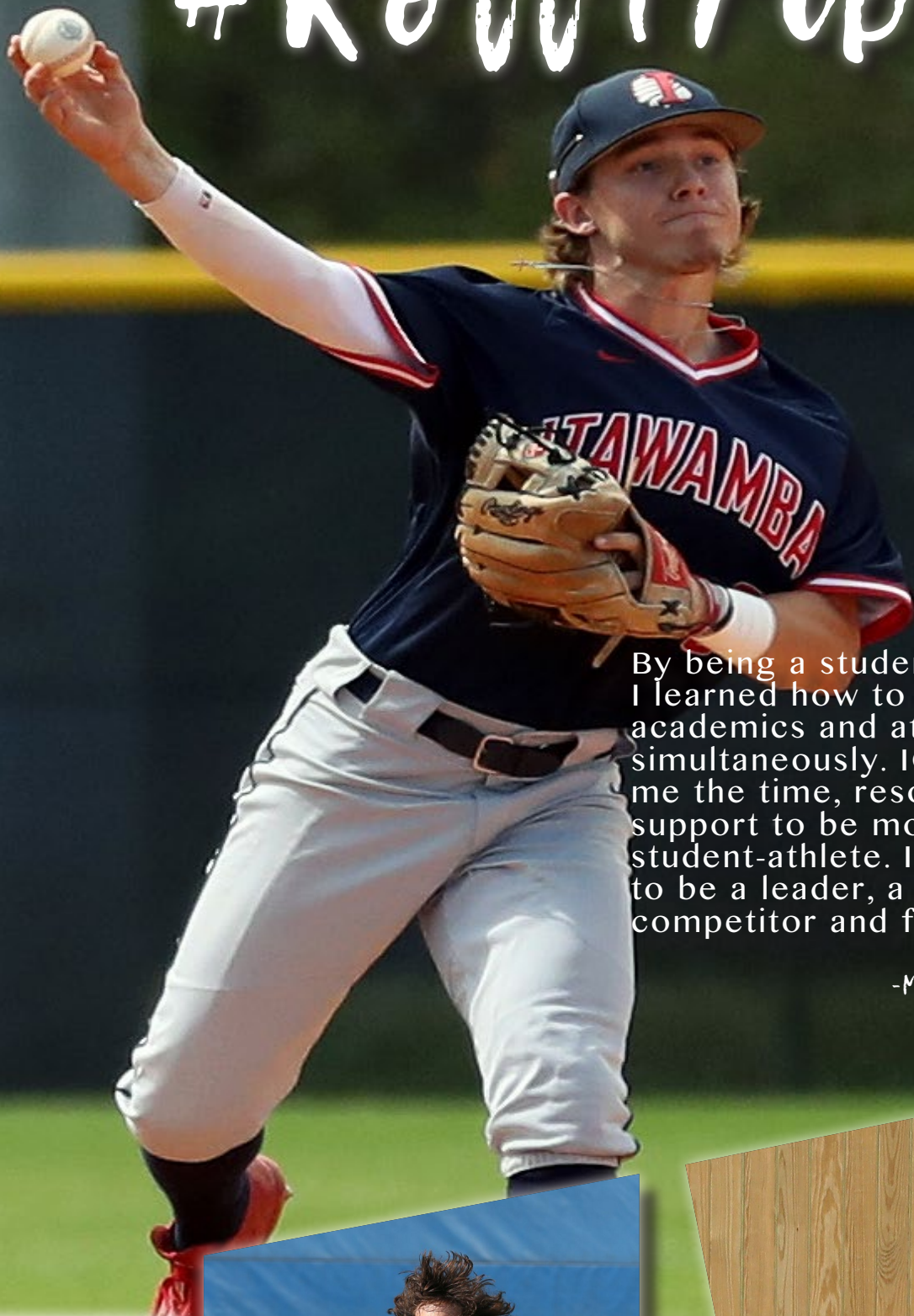
NJCAA Region Championship, and participated in the NJCAA National Tournament in Vincennes, Ind. That season she was named honorable mention, All-American by the NJCAA.

Gray's additional honors and activities include Special Olympics Coach, Special Olympics International Games, Special Olympics World Games, Lee County Courier Women of the 90's and Teacher of Distinction at Tupelo High School.

She is married to Joel Gray. They have two children, Joseph (Kayla) and Tiffany (Daniel), and five grandchildren.



#RollTribe



By being a student-athlete, I learned how to excel in academics and athletics simultaneously. ICC gave me the time, resources and support to be more than a student-athlete. I learned how to be a leader, a scholar, a competitor and friend.

-Mark Robbins



In golf, the Indians advanced to the NJCAA Region 23 Tournament after finishing fifth in the MACJC State Tournament.

Andrew McDonald of Fulton signed to continue his career as a student-athlete at Blue Mountain College.

In women's tennis, the Lady Indians finished 4-9 on the season and seventh in the MACJC and NJCAA Region 23 tournaments.

In men's tennis, the Indians finished 8-5 on the season and fourth in the MACJC and NJCAA Region 23 tournaments, missing a spot in the national tournament by only three points.

Freshmen Michael Crofts and Roberto Valadez, both of New Albany, won the No. 3 doubles flight championships.

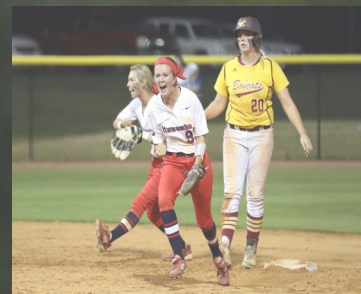
In baseball, the Indians finished the regular season with a 30-14 record and entered the playoffs as the No. 5 seed after climbing as high as No. 7 in the NJCAA rankings.

Pitcher

Reid Carter of Houston and first baseman Austin Carpenter of Belmont signed to play at Blue Mountain College next season. Third baseman and pitcher Kaleb Barnes of Pontotoc signed to continue his career at North Alabama.

In softball, the Indians punched their ticket to the NJCAA Region 23 Tournament with a 39-12-1 record after finishing third in the MACJC State Tournament. The Indians entered postseason play as the No. 3 seed in the conference and earned the program's highest ever ranking at No. 6 in the country.

Sophomore second baseman Alex Brown of Pontotoc and third baseman Mamie Hollenhead of Mathiston signed to continue their careers at North Alabama while sophomore pitcher Carleigh Mills signed to play at West Alabama.



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7
September *President's
Pregame Tailgate*

5
October *Sophomore Night
Breast Cancer
Awareness*

14
September *1st Responders'
Appreciation Night*

28
October *Homecoming*

28
September **MILITARY**
*Appreciation Night
community tailgate*



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